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January 1998  
**English 33** Part B: Reading  
**Questions Booklet**  
Grade 12 Diploma Examination

*Description*

**Part B: Reading** contributes 50% of the total English 33 Diploma Examination mark.

There are 70 questions in the Questions Booklet and 8 reading selections in the Readings Booklet.

*Time: 2 hours. You may take an additional 1/2 hour to complete the examination.*

*Instructions*

- Be sure that you have an English 33 Questions Booklet **and** an English 33 Readings Booklet.
- You may **not** use a dictionary, thesaurus, or other reference materials.
- On the answer sheet provided, use **only** an **HB** pencil to mark the correct or best answer for each question. Fill in the circle that corresponds to your answer. For example:

Which month has 31 days?

- A. February
- B. April
- C. November
- D. December

Answer Sheet

(A) (B) (C) ●

- Do not fold the answer sheet.
- Mark only one answer for each question.
- If you change an answer, erase your first mark completely.
- Answer all questions.



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**I. Read “The Party” on pages 1 to 3 of your Readings Booklet and answer questions 1 to 9.**

1. The fact that the child sees the jars of candies as “caves of jewels” (line 14) conveys her sense of
  - A. alarm
  - B. wonder
  - C. curiosity
  - D. disillusionment
  
2. When the father says “ ‘Imagine it. . . . Imagination tastes better than anything’ ” (line 17), his tone of voice would **most likely** be
  - A. teasing
  - B. sarcastic
  - C. indifferent
  - D. comforting
  
3. The child’s observation that “All the Dads looked small” (lines 55 to 56) reinforces the reader’s sense that the fathers are feeling
  - A. angry
  - B. shocked
  - C. confused
  - D. vulnerable
  
4. In lines 55 to 57, the short, simple sentences and the use of repetition help to create
  - A. emphasis
  - B. suspense
  - C. contrast
  - D. mystery

*Continued*

5. The child eats only the bread bun (line 70) because she
- A. has drunk too much tea
  - B. is not particularly hungry
  - C. wants to share with her family
  - D. knows that her father is watching
6. The repetition of the “l” sound in “The long walk home with my Dad was lovely, moonlit, starlit, lamplit and storelit” (lines 77 to 78) helps to create a mood of
- A. suspense
  - B. formality
  - C. bleakness
  - D. contentment
7. The pathos underlying the child’s participation in the Christmas party is suggested **most strongly** in
- A. “I left my coat for my Dad to hold” (line 44)
  - B. “We had to wait until everybody had a seat” (line 50)
  - C. “We were supposed to eat the five things while our Dads watched” (line 66)
  - D. “Every age got a different colour” (line 74)
8. The mother’s attitude, as suggested in lines 80 to 85, is **best** described as
- A. shocked and fearful
  - B. bitter and despairing
  - C. surprised and alarmed
  - D. anxious and concerned
9. The use of upper case letters (line 41) and italics (line 87) helps to reinforce the child’s feeling of
- A. awe at the grandness of the party
  - B. unease about the scope of the party
  - C. amusement with the antics of the party servers
  - D. concern about the wasted efforts of the party organizers

**II. Read “Learning by Doing” on pages 4 and 5 of your Readings Booklet and answer questions 10 to 17.**

- 10.** The reason that “They’re taking down a tree” (line 1) is that the “experts” believe that the tree has become a
- A. hazard to safety
  - B. hindrance to birds
  - C. barrier to sunshine
  - D. nuisance to neighbours
- 11.** In the second stanza, the speaker’s tone suggests disapproval of the
- A. desire for a safe environment
  - B. idea of nature’s power to destroy
  - C. private thoughts of the neighbours
  - D. reason given for the tree’s removal
- 12.** The speaker’s perception of the modern bias toward practical usefulness is **most clearly** expressed in
- A. “Rotten, they tell us, at the fork, and one  
Big wind would bring it down” (lines 5–6)
  - B. “Whatever cannot carry its own weight  
Has got to go” (lines 8–9)
  - C. “Until there’s nothing left to hold on to  
Or snub the splintery holding rope around” (lines 21–22)
  - D. “Next come the tractor and the crowbar crew  
To extirpate what’s left and fill the grave” (lines 36–37)
- 13.** The implied comparison in the statement “let down Out of itself a finger at a time  
And then an arm, and so down to the trunk” (lines 18 to 20) is an example of
- A. personification
  - B. exaggeration
  - C. simile
  - D. irony

*Continued*



14. The speaker refers to “experts” (line 31) in a tone that is
- A. envious
  - B. scornful
  - C. sorrowful
  - D. respectful
15. In the context of the poem, a “mean-spirited moral point” (lines 14 and 39) is an attempt to
- A. explain criticism
  - B. justify questionable action
  - C. encourage the pursuit of good
  - D. humiliate people into submission
16. The speaker foresees “a bewilderment of birds” (line 43) at dusk because
- A. darkness will disorient the birds
  - B. crowds of people will scatter the birds
  - C. the birds’ quiet has been shattered by noise
  - D. the birds’ accustomed resting place is not there
17. In the last three lines of the poem, the speaker conveys a feeling of
- A. fear
  - B. relief
  - C. hatred
  - D. regret



**III. Read the excerpt from *I Had a Job I Liked. Once.* on pages 6 to 10 of your Readings Booklet and answer questions 18 to 27.**

18. The stage directions “*He nervously rubs his nose until he becomes aware of what he is doing, then he shoves his hand between his crossed legs, pinning it*” (lines 11 to 12) indicate that Les is feeling
- A. tired
  - B. angry
  - C. anxious
  - D. frustrated
19. Les is surprised when Finestad phones for Cokes, because Finestad’s action **most likely**
- A. confirms Les’ past experience with the police
  - B. contradicts Les’ expectations of the police
  - C. makes Les appreciative of the police
  - D. makes Les wary of the police
20. Finestad’s questioning of Les is effective in that Finestad
- A. gets Les to talk about himself
  - B. confirms his original suspicions about Les
  - C. comes to the conclusion that Les is innocent
  - D. manipulates Les’ answers to his own advantage
21. Les’ tone of voice when he replies “Right” (line 137) would indicate that he is feeling
- A. cynical
  - B. humble
  - C. revengeful
  - D. conciliatory

*Continued*

22. Les' attitude toward the "university boys" (line 144) can be described as one of
- A. envious scorn
  - B. amused superiority
  - C. reluctant admiration
  - D. obvious indifference
23. In lines 144 and 145, the use of the expression "high chair" and the word "daddies" suggests **mainly** that Les feels that the university boys are
- A. proud
  - B. pampered
  - C. indifferent
  - D. irresponsible
24. The apparent misunderstanding between Les and Finestad about Les' job at the pool is that
- A. Finestad assumes that Les is a lifeguard
  - B. Les thinks that working in the pump room is a great job
  - C. Les assumes that Finestad knows that the lifeguards are "university boys"
  - D. Finestad thinks that working at the gravel pit would be easier than working at the pool
25. Les' impression of the distinction between the advantaged people and those who are taken advantage of is **most** apparent when he says
- A. "I wasn't the same guy come school in September" (lines 97–98)
  - B. "Listening doesn't cost you nothing" (line 111)
  - C. "they said I get sixty cents an hour to throw gravel" (line 114)
  - D. "How come a dollar doesn't mean the same thing to me as it does Henderson's kid?" (lines 125–126)

*Continued*

26. In the excerpt, the dialogue serves **most effectively** to develop
- A. plot
  - B. theme
  - C. setting
  - D. character
27. The **major** conflict suggested in the scene is between
- A. rich and poor
  - B. young and old
  - C. police and criminals
  - D. employers and employees

- IV. Read the excerpt from *A Doctor in the West* on pages 11 to 13 of your Readings Booklet and answer questions 28 to 36.**
- 28.** The statement “he adopted an air of complacent benevolence as he spoke” (lines 12 to 13) suggests that the narrator’s colleague took on a manner of
- A. smug kindness
  - B. gracious interest
  - C. naive detachment
  - D. exaggerated indifference
- 29.** The meaning of the word “curt,” as it is used in line 21, is
- A. civil
  - B. abrupt
  - C. anxious
  - D. friendly
- 30.** When the narrator says “My bridges were burnt behind me” (lines 22 to 23), he means that he
- A. fears what he is about to do
  - B. has done something he now regrets
  - C. is committed to the action he is about to take
  - D. is unable to remember anything that happened in the past
- 31.** When the narrator’s colleague says “ ‘Nothing but oil wells and gum-chewing cowboy types’ ” (lines 43 to 44), he is guilty of
- A. lying
  - B. teasing
  - C. stereotyping
  - D. propagandizing
- 32.** The word “precious” in the question “ ‘How far’s Ontario from your precious Okotoks?’ ” (line 59) suggests a tone of voice that is
- A. angry
  - B. excited
  - C. cheerful
  - D. scornful

*Continued*

33. The narrator's doubts about emigrating are resolved when his
- A. daughter agrees to move if she can have her own pony
  - B. colleague agrees with his decision to move to Western Canada
  - C. patients understand that he must avoid working such long hours
  - D. wife points out that being a doctor is more important to him than being a lawyer
34. The reason that the narrator's wife chooses Okotoks, rather than some other town in Alberta, is that she
- A. likes the name of Okotoks
  - B. respects the people of Okotoks
  - C. hopes to raise ponies in Okotoks
  - D. appreciates the scenery around Okotoks
35. Why does the narrator make the decision to move to Canada rather than to the United States or Turkey?
- A. He has visited Canada before.
  - B. He wants to go to a frontier area.
  - C. He is impressed with the Canadian Immigration people.
  - D. He wants to go somewhere still associated with Great Britain.
36. The narrator's appreciation of the importance of his decision to emigrate is **most clearly** indicated in
- A. "I hadn't meant to be curt or discourteous. I was preoccupied" (line 21)
  - B. "the enormity of the step I was about to make my little family take weighed heavily upon me" (lines 23–24)
  - C. "'I'm nearly half way to being a lawyer and there have been many times when I've thought of getting out of medicine altogether'" (lines 78–80)
  - D. "'Janet and I had stipulated that we wanted to go where we were needed, not to a large city. We studied maps for hours and talked for days'" (lines 98–100)

- V. Read the excerpt from “Woman with Wanderlust” on pages 14 to 17 of your Readings Booklet and answer questions 37 to 45.
37. In the context of lines 72 to 87, the **main** effect of the writer’s comment “Yes, all will be fine . . . ” (lines 86 to 87) is to
- A. suggest atmosphere
  - B. reveal character
  - C. indicate setting
  - D. develop plot
38. The writer’s description of the man in the T-shirt (lines 91 to 93) suggests that her attitude toward him is one of
- A. fear
  - B. awe
  - C. compassion
  - D. contempt
39. The **main** effect of the images in lines 145 to 152 is to
- A. emphasize the writer’s sensory impressions
  - B. demonstrate the snobbery of the upper classes
  - C. portray the deplorable conditions of the homeless
  - D. illustrate the writer’s awareness of the divisions in society
40. In the context of lines 177 to 192, to the writer, “the perfect life” includes
- A. travelling without financial worries
  - B. surviving on basic necessities alone
  - C. experiencing the natural beauty of Canada
  - D. enduring the challenges of Canada’s weather
41. In context, the writer adopts a playful tone in
- A. “Occasionally I wear a fake moustache” (lines 99–100)
  - B. “Objects get more protection and concern than the homeless” (lines 133–134)
  - C. “‘A goat,’ I answered” (line 232)
  - D. “I don’t wrestle with ‘If I had it to do over again I’d be a lawyer’ ” (lines 245–247)

*Continued*

42. That the writer's presence causes other people to feel uncomfortable is indicated in
- A. "Sometimes I feel as though I'm little more than a target" (lines 97–98)
  - B. "Objects get more protection and concern than the homeless" (lines 133–134)
  - C. "The folks here won't look me in the face" (lines 158–159)
  - D. "'What would it take to make you stable?'" (lines 220–221)
43. A quotation that suggests that the writer has little control over living the life of a hobo is
- A. "I lead people to believe that I'm expected somewhere and that I'll be missed if I don't show" (lines 104–107)
  - B. "'Does an alcoholic enjoy drinking?' I wonder" (lines 175–176)
  - C. "when I awake to a shining day on Prince Edward Island, surrounded by field grass tinged with sunrise it seems the perfect life" (lines 188–192)
  - D. "These people all weave themselves into my life, becoming part of how I think and grow. . ." (lines 204–206)
44. Consider the figures of speech present in the following quotations:
- "growing into its pages like fungus" (lines 47–48)
  - "an ignorant man who wore his brand of beer across his T-shirt like a social cause" (lines 91–93)
  - "Sometimes I'm followed, stalked like prey" (lines 110–111)
  - "a tall mug of coffee to hold like an old and trusted friend" (lines 264–266)

Each of these quotations contains an example of

- A. simile
- B. metaphor
- C. hyperbole
- D. personification

*Continued*



45. The statement that **best** reflects the writer's perspective of her present situation is
- A. "Perhaps my delivery could use some work. . ." (lines 70–71)
  - B. "Like me, he spends a lot of time in the library on these wintery days. I saw the book he was looking at. It had pictures of tall ships" (lines 138–142)
  - C. "I want a pottery teapot and shelves full of books" (lines 259–260)
  - D. "But for today I'm a drifter. And I suspect I'll still be a drifter tomorrow because this morning I awoke in a field to a clear day" (lines 268–271)

**VI. Read the first draft of Robin’s report “A Hobo’s Life” on pages 18 and 19 of your Readings Booklet carefully noting the revisions that she has made, and answer questions 46 to 52.**

46. Robin has revised the sentence structure in line three of paragraph 1 in order to eliminate a
- A. shift in time
  - B. shift in person
  - C. run-on sentence
  - D. sentence fragment
47. In paragraph 2, an error in usage that Robin has yet to correct is evident in the phrase
- A. “suggest to you” (line 1)
  - B. “lazy and careless” (line 2)
  - C. “would of laughed” (line 3)
  - D. “changed my mind” (line 4)
48. Robin changes the words “to eat” to the word “eating” in line five of paragraph 3 in order to
- A. achieve parallelism
  - B. remove redundancy
  - C. create an informal tone
  - D. correct a spelling error
49. Robin changes the word “can” to “could” in line seven of paragraph 3 in order to
- A. add specificity
  - B. provide contrast
  - C. avoid exaggeration
  - D. correct a verb tense error

*Continued*

50. In the last sentence of paragraph 3, Robin adds the word “some” in order to
- A. add emphasis
  - B. develop a contrast
  - C. increase informality
  - D. avoid overgeneralization
51. A spelling error that Robin has forgotten to correct in paragraph 4 is the spelling of
- A. “preperations” (line 1)
  - B. “choose” (line 2)
  - C. “particular” (line 3)
  - D. “regular” (line 4)
52. Robin deletes the word “much” in line four of paragraph 4 in order to
- A. decrease length
  - B. provide emphasis
  - C. avoid redundancy
  - D. increase persuasiveness

**VII. Read “Postcard From Civilization” on page 20 of your Readings Booklet and answer questions 53 to 58.**

- 53.** The repetition of the words “street” in lines 1 and 2 and “neat” in lines 3 and 4 emphasizes the
- A. joys of working in a garden
  - B. convenience of living in a city
  - C. uniformity of the surroundings
  - D. importance of keeping yards attractive
- 54.** In context, the speaker’s statement “And so we try to keep the garden neat” (line 4) suggests an attitude of
- A. dutiful submission to obligation
  - B. eager pleasure in achieving orderliness
  - C. neighbourly rivalry in lawn maintenance
  - D. nervous concern about the neighbourhood
- 55.** The phrases “Like pistons in their gardens” (line 10) and “slides within his cylinder” (line 11) suggest **most strongly** that the neighbours and the speaker are
- A. coordinated in their shared labours
  - B. dedicated to being precise and orderly
  - C. programmed to machine-like behaviour
  - D. conscientious about their responsibilities
- 56.** The speaker’s attitude toward his relationship with nature is **most clearly** indicated in
- A. “Keep the garden neat” (line 3)
  - B. “I haven’t the touch that makes a green thing grow” (line 5)
  - C. “I can follow a mower, and I mow” (line 6)
  - D. “Yet independence makes the engine run” (line 14)

*Continued*

57. The quotation that **most clearly** suggests that the speaker is experiencing a loss of personal identity is
- A. “dead-end street” (line 1)
  - B. “up and down” (line 8)
  - C. “out of many, one” (line 13)
  - D. “And launched like astronauts” (line 15)
58. The isolation that sometimes results from living in an urban society is suggested by the speaker’s use of the words
- A. “modern house” (line 1)
  - B. “green thing” (line 5)
  - C. “unknown neighbors” (line 9)
  - D. “common ground” (line 16)

**VIII. Read the excerpt from “An Underground Episode” on pages 21 to 26 of your Readings Booklet and answer questions 59 to 70.**

59. The **main** reason that the boy volunteers to go through the pipe is that he is
- A. attracted by the fifty-dollar reward
  - B. afraid of being thought of as a coward
  - C. conscious of the fact that the situation is serious
  - D. aware that he is the only one small enough to fit
60. As they rest on their shovels (lines 1 to 10), Laska, Nick, and the boy are similar in that all three of them
- A. imagine situations that they find comforting
  - B. think about the families that they have left behind
  - C. express concern about the work that they have done
  - D. long for a holiday that would allow them to escape heavy labour
61. The quotation “as their bellies fattened, they spoke tolerantly of enemies” (line 39) suggests that the sewer workers become
- A. less tired as their muscles relax
  - B. more critical of their boss as they work
  - C. more mellow as their hunger disappears
  - D. less connected to their homes as they travel
62. That the boy sees the sewer workers as a “race of giants” (line 41) is reflected **most directly** in
- A. “They knew the clay, the feel and pattern of it” (line 36)
  - B. “They were big in three dimensions” (line 37)
  - C. “They played lustily with a view to satiation” (lines 39–40)
  - D. “They worked stupendously” (line 40)

*Continued*

63. Which of the following quotations contains a contradiction of terms?
- A. “yellow pendulums” (line 26)
  - B. “cursing conqueror” (line 30)
  - C. “admirable monsters” (line 36)
  - D. “black slicker” (line 42)
64. The word “lancing” in the statement “the diggers in clay were lancing him with looks” (line 73) suggests that the men are
- A. envious of the boy’s promised reward
  - B. compelling the boy to retain his resolve
  - C. hoping that the boy will change his mind
  - D. attempting to weaken the boy’s determination
65. The boy’s statement “It’s all right, I guess” (line 84) suggests that he approaches his task with
- A. hostility
  - B. reluctance
  - C. confidence
  - D. enthusiasm
66. The use of the word “gibbering” (line 100) emphasizes the boy’s
- A. anger
  - B. dread
  - C. resignation
  - D. embarrassment
67. The effect on the boy of the constricting nature of the sewer pipe is indicated **most strongly** in
- A. “paralyzing circumference” (line 112)
  - B. “solid wave” (line 120)
  - C. “rough walls” (line 128)
  - D. “merciless weight” (line 134)

*Continued*



68. The imagery of lines 176 to 190 suggests that the boy is undergoing a kind of
- A. rebirth
  - B. banishment
  - C. annihilation
  - D. degeneration
69. The fact that the boy felt a “clouded, uncomprehending resentment” (line 192) suggests that he
- A. was feeling unreasonable
  - B. was not aware of his feelings
  - C. did not understand his feeling of hostility
  - D. was very aware of the reasons for his feelings
70. Compassion for the boy is shown **most vividly** when
- A. Stender tells the boy to take off his clothes (line 66)
  - B. Nick warms the boy’s hip boots (lines 79–81)
  - C. Laska asks the boy if the line is too tight (line 83)
  - D. Laska carries the boy out of the manhole (lines 198–202)









# *English 33: Part B*

## *January 1998*

